

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

3764
5/A
EW-8-24-01

Inventor : Nicholas P. Van Brunt

Appln. No. : 09/412,459

Filed : October 4, 1999

Title : AIRWAY TREATMENT APPARATUS
WITH BIAS LINE CANCELLATION

Docket No. : A792.12-0006



Group Art Unit: 3764

Examiner: B. Koo

RESPONSE AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SENT VIA EXPRESS MAIL

Express Mail No.: EL800728833US

Sir:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4-5, 8-10 (marked up version attached in Appendix) and add claims 11-15, such that pending claims 1-15 are as follows:

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1.(Amended) A chest wall oscillation method comprising:

applying an oscillating compressive force to a chest of a patient which includes a steady state force component and an oscillating force component; and
supplying air pressure to a mouthpiece in communication with a mouth of the patient with an oscillating air pressure component and with a steady state air pressure component which is in a direction and which has a magnitude which tends to counteract the steady state force component of the oscillating compressive force.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the steady state air pressure component at least approximately equals a mean pressure exerted on the patient's chest by oscillating compressive force.

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